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December 16, 2021

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to offer my support for Western Washington University's College of Engineering proposal to add a Master's Degree program in Electrical Engineering. Further, I believe the proposed approach to allow students to earn this degree part-time, either remote or on campus, or remotely from their place of employment will make available critical engineering education needed by employees at the PACCAR Technical Center.

The PACCAR Technical Center (PTC) is a division of PACCAR Inc., a global manufacturer of medium- and heavy-duty trucks under the DAF, Kenworth and Peterbilt brands. PACCAR also offers financial services and operates a global parts business in support of our customers worldwide. The Technical Center employs over 400 engineers, scientists and technicians working in research, development, validation and other technical areas in support of our current and future products. Presently, we have a strong focus on future technology, driven by improving customer up-time, safety, reliability and by ever more stringent regulatory demands on vehicle emissions, including carbon dioxide.

The technical challenges we are addressing require advanced engineering expertise, particularly in the field of electrical engineering. Vehicle-to-infrastructure communication, electric drivetrains and autonomous driving, as well as conventional powertrains all require significant electrical engineering expertise, often beyond the training engineers receive at the Bachelor of Science level of education.

The Technical Center has partnered with Western Washington University for decades. There are more WWU graduates working at PTC than from any other institution, and many of our employees have pursued graduate business degrees at Western while working. Two years ago, the PACCAR Foundation funded an endowed professorship in Electrical Engineering at Western, and this past summer, Professor Junaid Khan spent three months in residence at PTC, and has continued to pursue research and teaching objectives consistent with our mutual interests. Additionally, over the years PTC engineers have taught engineering courses at WWU.

Our continued relationship with WWU provides an important workforce pipeline for undergraduate engineers, and we would expect that the addition of a Master's program in Electrical Engineering would enable our engineers to further their education in a way compatible with work commitments in a program we know is well aligned with our needs.

Thank you for your consideration of my recommendation.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Philip Stephenson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Philip Stephenson, Ph.D.

General Manager, PACCAR Technical Center



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Bellingham, WA 98226 USA

[www.enersys.com](http://www.enersys.com)

January 13, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support for Western Washington University's funding proposal to establish a Master's program in Electrical and Computer Engineering. The proposed curriculum which allows students to earn this degree part-time, either locally on-campus or remotely from students' employers, will increase access to graduate study in the well-respected Electrical and Computer Engineering program at Western, and this new program will likely be of interest to employees at EnerSys.

EnerSys is a powering and stored energy systems and technology provider for industrial applications. Formerly known as Alpha Technologies, the Bellingham R&D office of EnerSys designs fully integrated AC/DC power and energy storage systems as well as technologies for the broadband and telecom industries. The Bellingham office employs over 60 engineers and technical staff, working in Product Development and R&D activities. These EnerSys products are critical areas of growth for Washington's economy.

Our industry and the technical challenges we address require advanced engineering expertise, particularly in the field of electrical and computer engineering. Research and development of Powering and Communications technologies all require significant electrical and computer engineering expertise, often beyond the training engineers receive in undergraduate engineering programs. For many years, EnerSys has hired engineers from Western's Electrical and Computer Engineering program, and we have found that its focus on hands-on, experiential learning provides the skills and training that we seek when hiring engineers.

Western's EECE program provides a critical workforce pipeline of undergraduate engineers, and we expect that the addition of a Master's program in Electrical and Computer Engineering would enable our engineers to further their education in a way compatible with work commitments in a program we know is well aligned with our needs and interests.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

**Thomas Newberry**

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